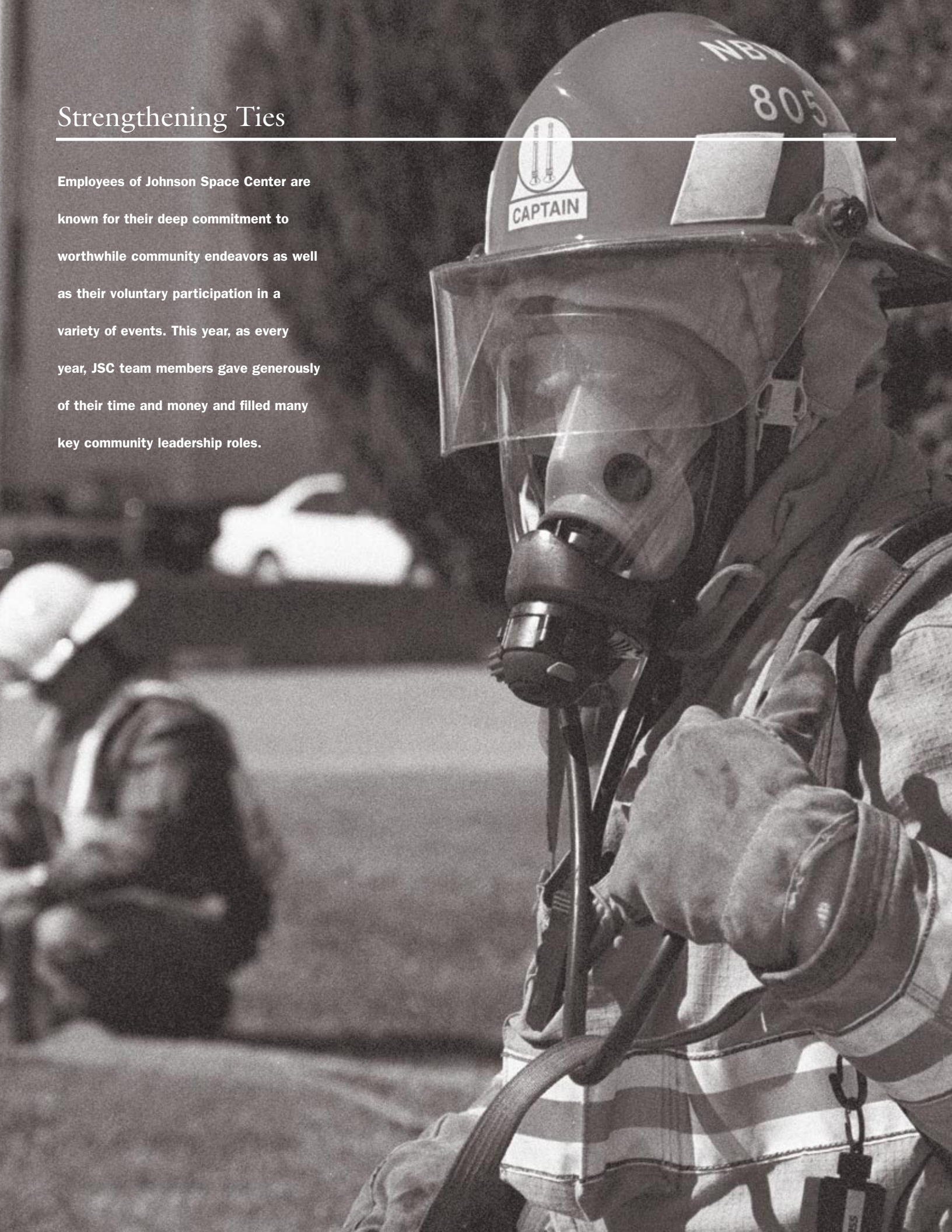


Strengthening Ties

Employees of Johnson Space Center are known for their deep commitment to worthwhile community endeavors as well as their voluntary participation in a variety of events. This year, as every year, JSC team members gave generously of their time and money and filled many key community leadership roles.

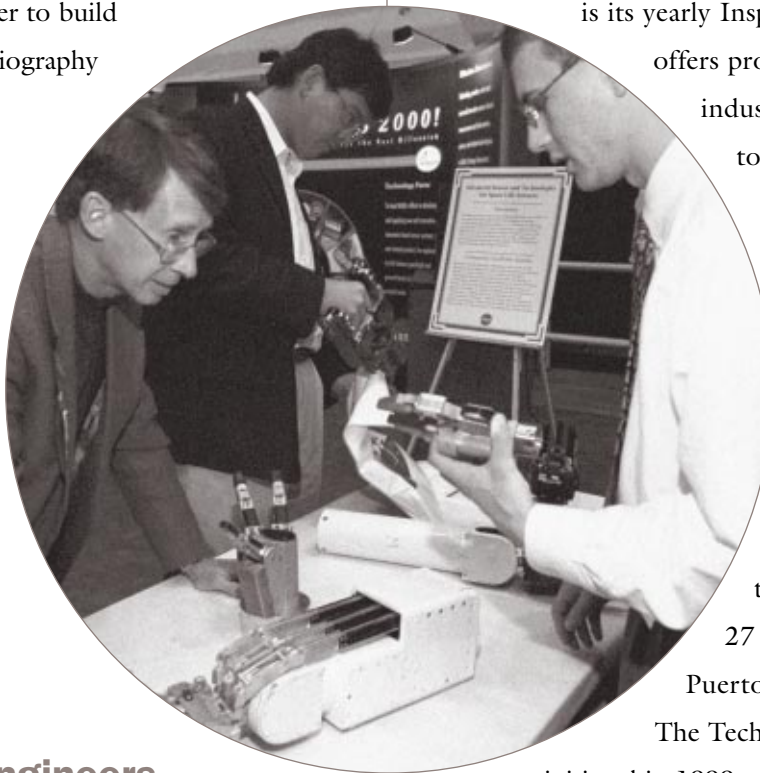


A primary goal of the space program is to make life better on Earth by sharing advanced technologies and fostering successful applications as new products and services. The people of Johnson Space Center demonstrate their commitment to strengthening ties with the community by sharing resources, technology, ideas, and their own time.

With the help of JSC flight controllers, Texas Children's Hospital used the design and the operating principles of the Mission Control Center to build a new cutting-edge echocardiography lab, which better serves the medical professionals and its young patients.

Using fabrics that are used in spacesuits to resist the intense ultraviolet sunlight in space, JSC engineers developed sunproof playsuits complete with air conditioning for children who suffer from a light-sensitivity disorder.

In 1999, NASA engineers unveiled "The Almost Human Hand." Teleoperated by virtual-reality immersion, it manipulates wrenches, scissors, drills, and light bulbs, and can even perform an injection using a syringe.



Open House is a yearly event at Johnson Space Center designed to give the general public an inside look at the space program and the spin-offs that have been derived from NASA research. Held in August, it is a labor of love by more than 2,800 volunteers. The 1999 Open House attracted a record crowd of 120,000 visitors from across Texas and around the world.

The Center's primary forum for technology sharing is its yearly Inspection. This free event offers professionals from government, industry, and academia a chance to learn about tools and processes developed for the space program, tour the Space Center, and talk with scientists and engineers. Inspection '99, a 3-day event organized and hosted by volunteers from JSC, attracted more than 2,500 visitors from 27 countries, 44 states, and Puerto Rico.

The Technology Outreach Program, initiated in 1999, offers JSC the chance to return the benefits of the space program to the general public by providing small businesses a chance to team up directly with engineers, scientists, and technicians to solve business and technical problems. These entrepreneurs work with a project team that donates up to 40 hours of valuable time.

Inspection '99

JSC's yearly Inspection event drew another record crowd in 1999. Industry leaders and entrepreneurs alike had a chance to talk to the engineers and scientists responsible for emerging technologies such as this robotic "The Almost Human Hand."

Community Involvement

As an extension of its commitment to safety, the Johnson Space Center has partnered with local communities. In the event of a range of natural and industrial emergencies that could affect the area, neighboring communities are invited to share JSC's state-of-the-art, 4000-square-foot Emergency Operations Center.

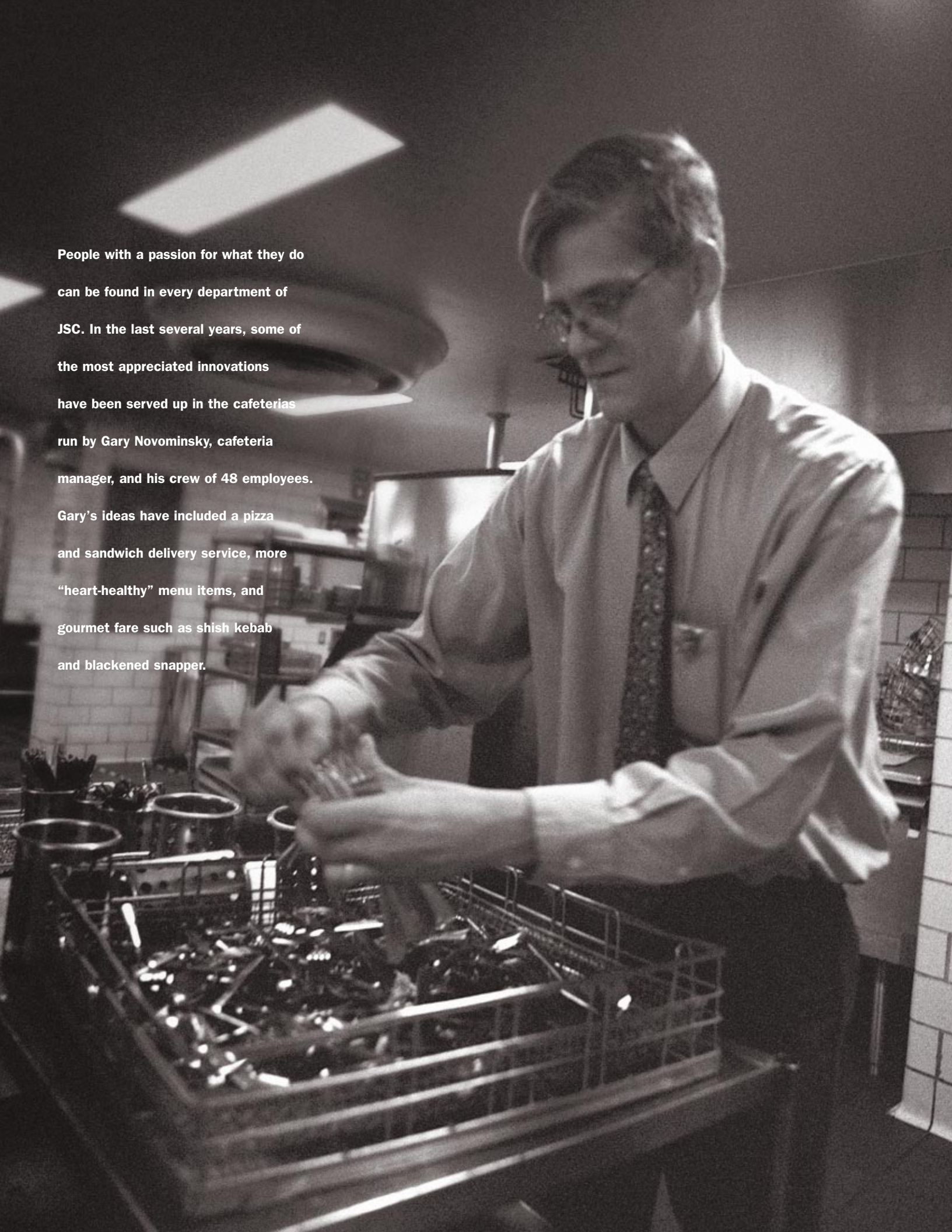
Members of the JSC team help host several rodeo-themed events each year including a trail ride, a barbecue and dance, love country-and-western bands, and roping demonstrations. These activities support the efforts of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo which provides numerous college scholarships to area students.



In its first year of activity, JSC's Science Advisor (SciAd) program has already proven its value to everyone involved. Working with the Clear Creek Independent School District, the SciAds sponsored a robot-building and -programming contest. A team of intermediate-school students assembled a "smart machine" that might actually make it to Mars. The "Mars Smart Grabber" looks for items and, upon finding them, decides whether or not to pick them up, then moves them to a work area.

SciAd

In the first year of the program here at JSC, 100 employees volunteered to be SciAds, or Science Advisors, in the Clear Creek Independent School District.



People with a passion for what they do
can be found in every department of
JSC. In the last several years, some of
the most appreciated innovations
have been served up in the cafeterias
run by Gary Novominsky, cafeteria
manager, and his crew of 48 employees.

Gary's ideas have included a pizza
and sandwich delivery service, more
"heart-healthy" menu items, and
gourmet fare such as shish kebab
and blackened snapper.